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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/800,980	03/08/2001	Parris C.M. Hawkins	5198/Consilium/MBE	2170
32588	7590	06/30/2004	EXAMINER	
APPLIED MATERIALS, INC. 2881 SCOTT BLVD. M/S 2061 SANTA CLARA, CA 95050			SHECHTMAN, SEAN P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2125	

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

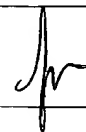
Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/800,980

Applicant(s)

HAWKINS ET AL.



Examiner

Sean P. Shechtman

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-43 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-43 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 May 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date SEE NEXT PAGE.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

10/3/01; 4/25/03; 7/3/03; 10/9/03; 12/18/03; 3/29/04

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-43 are presented for examination.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement filed October 3rd 2001 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each U.S. and foreign patent; each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.
3. Regarding the information disclosure statements filed July 3rd 2003 and March 29th 2004. The examiner has reviewed the information disclosure statements and has determined that several references listed in said information disclosure statements were already submitted for consideration on previously filed PTO-1449 forms. Examiner has lined through these previously cited references because duplication is not required.
4. The information disclosure statements filed October 3rd 2001, April 25th 2003, July 3rd 2003, October 9th 2003, December 18th 2003, and March 29th 2004 contains a large number of references submitted for consideration that appear to be cumulative and are consistent with the progress in the art. In view of the number of references in this application, the Applicant is requested to identify any specific references, features, sections or figures in the references cited which are believed to have particular significance in the prosecution of this application or which are considered material to the patentability of the pending claims, for further consideration by the examiner.

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5. Regarding the information disclosure statements filed October 3rd 2001, April 25th 2003, July 3rd 2003, October 9th 2003, December 18th 2003, and March 29th 2004. The examiner has reviewed and considered all the cited references and has determined that most references appear to be commensurate with the state of the art of tasks and are not necessarily specific to determining the patentability of the claimed invention. Examiner has initialed the references that are considered pertinent to the instant application and has lined through the remaining references that are not considered to be material to the patentability of the claimed invention. If the applicant feels that one of the lined through references is material to the patentability of the application and should be cited on any possible printed patent document, it is requested that that document be pointed out in the response to this office action.

Drawings

6. The drawings are objected to because, referring to figures 3 and 5-8, examiner believes that the terminology used in the instant specification with respect to the term task guide, would more clearly illustrate the invention. Examiner suggests replacing the term checklist with task guide where the term appears in figures 3 and 5-8.

7. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference character(s) mentioned in the description: step 611 (See page 13, lines 13-14 of the instant specification).

Corrected drawing sheets are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a

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drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

8. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Referring to page 2, line 9, "activities those", should be rephrased "those activities".

Referring to page 16, line 11, "interface 956", should be rephrased "interface 954".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

9. Claim 13 is objected to because of the following informalities:

Referring to claim 13, line 4, and claim 42, line 4, and claim 43, line 4, "are must", should be rephrased "must".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

10. Claims 1-3, 11, 13, 16, 17, 25, 27-30, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,444,837 to Bomans.

Referring to claims 1, 13, and 28, Bomans teaches a task guide system and computer readable medium comprising instructions for execution by a computer comprising:

a computer having at least one central processing unit; a computer memory and/or storage, residing within said computer (Col. 3, lines 49-51);

a task guide software component in storage (Col. 3, lines 41-51), said task guide software component configured to include/have entered (Col. 3, lines 41-51; Col. 2, lines 3-66) a plurality of tasks to be performed (from the view menu select watermark and choose the placement of the watermark), including:

at least one task that is to be performed optionally (Fig. 5, "FUEL CHECK...IF NECESSARY"); and

at least one mandatory task that must be performed (Col. 3, lines 22-31), wherein at least one of the plurality of tasks are performed manually (Col. 3, lines 22-31; Col. 16, lines 56-62; operator performed tasks);

displaying said tasks of the task guide entered into the task guide (Fig. 5); and

initiating at least said mandatory tasks that have been entered in said preceding steps (Col. 3, lines 22-31; Col. 16, lines 56-62; operator validates all the tasks in the list or in Col. 19,

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lines 24-27, the automatic triggering of performance of an appropriate list of task in the event of failure).

FIG. 5
B-727 / NORMAL PROCEDURES CHECKLIST

AFTER TAKEOFF - CLIMB			
* LANDING GEAR	OFF #	18 000 FL MSL	
HIGH INTENSITY LIGHTS	ON	ALTI AND BARO	CHECKED
* FLAPS	UP #	(outside the american continent, set to the specified transitional altitude obtained from ATC)	
<u>After cleaning of the plane</u>			
ALLUMAGE MOTEUR	IF NECESSARY	RADIO ALTIMETERS	OFF
FUEL CHECK	IF NECESSARY	* LANDING LIGHTS	OFF
PRESSURIZATION	ACTIVE & CHECKED	TPS	IF NECESSARY
HYDRAULIC PUMPS	IF NECESSARY	AIR COND. CHECK	CHECKED
10 000 FL MSL		PRESSURIZATION	CHECKED
ALTIMETERS	CHECKED	Climb above 300 FL	
CRUISE FLIGHT			
ENGINE CHECK	IF NECESSARY	DELAY CODES	IF NECESSARY
POINTS OF 1st FLIGHT OF THE DAY	CHECKED		
DESCENT			
PRESSURIZATION	CHECKED	RADIO ALTIMETERS	ON/TESTED
LANDING DATA	PREPARED	LANDING LIGHTS	ON
<u>Descent below 180 FL or exit from cruising altitude which is lower</u>		ASPIRATION VANE	IF NECESSARY
ALTI AND BARO	CHECKED	COOLING GATES	OPEN
(outside the american continent, zeroize upon starting descent to an altitude lower than the transitional level)		<u>descent below 10 000 FT MSL or exit cruising altitude which is lower</u>	
		HYDRAULIC PUMPS	ON #
BEFORE LANDING			
Use Mechanical checklist			
AFTER LANDING - TAXI			
ANTI-SKID	OFF		
BRAKES	FRONT		
BRAKE PRESSURE	CHECKED		

Referring to claims 2, 16, 29, Bomans teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the task guide component is further configured to require that the performance of the plurality of tasks are initiated in a pre-set sequence (Col. 19, lines 17-20).

Referring to claim 3, 17, 30, Bomans teaches the system of claim 2, wherein the task guide component is further configured to include one or more floating tasks that can be initiated out of the pre-set sequence (Col. 18, lines 39-41).

Referring to claim 11, 25, 27, 38, Bomans teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of tasks includes a sub-task guide that includes another plurality of tasks (Col. 2, lines 44-46).

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11. Claims 1-3, 11, 13, 16-18, 25, 27-31, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,825,356 to Habib.

Referring to claims 1, 13, and 28, Habib teaches a task guide system and computer readable medium comprising instructions for execution by a computer comprising:

a computer having at least one central processing unit; a computer memory and/or storage, residing within said computer (Col. 2, lines 37-52);

a task guide software component in storage (Col. 2, lines 19-21), said task guide software component configured to include/have entered (Col. 2, lines 53-58; Col. 6, lines 39-40) a plurality of tasks to be performed (from the view menu select watermark and choose the placement of the watermark), including:

at least one task that is to be performed optionally (if desired, use the browse button); and

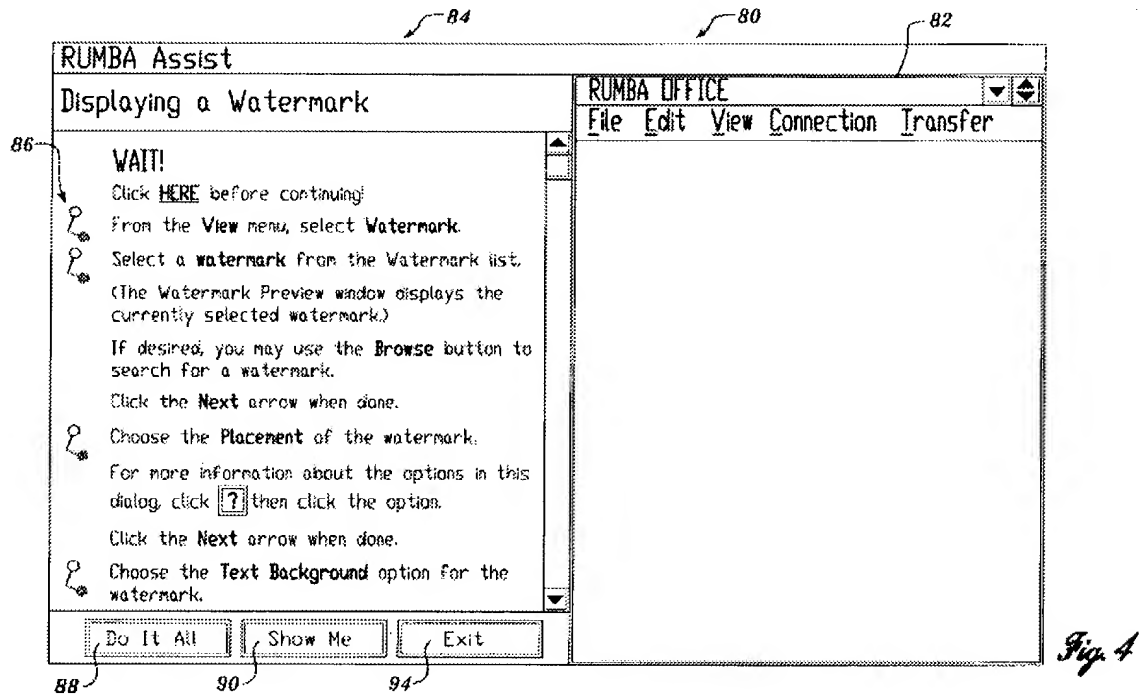
at least one mandatory task that must be performed (Abstract, lines 8-10, the help window lists the required steps, for example, from the view menu select watermark),

wherein at least one of the plurality of tasks are performed manually (from the view menu select watermark);

displaying said tasks of the task guide entered into the task guide (Fig. 4); and

initiating at least said mandatory tasks that have been entered in said preceding steps (Fig. 4, element 88).

Examiner asserts that the programs constructed or created by Habib must have been programmed or entered into the computer (Col. 2, lines 53-58; Col. 6, lines 39-40).



Referring to claim 2, 16, 29, Habib teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the task guide component is further configured to require that the performance of the plurality of tasks are initiated in a pre-set sequence (Col. 1, line 49, the system shows the user "a sequence of steps required").

Referring to claim 3, 17, 30, Habib teaches the system of claim 2, wherein the task guide component is further configured to include one or more floating tasks that can be initiated out of the pre-set sequence (Col. 10, lines 1-13).

Referring to claims 11, 25, 27, 38, Habib teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of tasks includes a sub-task guide that includes another plurality of tasks (select a watermark; browse for watermark; choose placement of watermark).

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Referring to claims 18 and 31, Habib teaches the method of claim 13, further comprising the step of: creating a software object configured to be executed by one or more of the plurality of tasks that are to be performed automatically (Fig. 4, element 88).

12. Claims 1-3, 11-13, 16, 17, 25-30, 38, 39, and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,012,048 to Gustin.

Referring to claims 1, 13, 28, and 41, Gustin teaches a task guide system and computer readable medium comprising instructions for execution by a computer comprising:

a computer having at least one central processing unit; a computer memory and/or storage, residing within said computer (Col. 8, lines 8-32);

a task guide software component in storage, said task guide software component configured to include/have entered (Col. 8, lines 18-32) a plurality of tasks to be performed (Fig. 8 and 9), including:

at least one task that is to be performed optionally (Fig. 9); and

at least one mandatory task that must be performed (Fig. 8a or 8b; inserting card or entering password; Col. 9, lines 41-44),

wherein at least one of the plurality of tasks are performed manually (Fig. 8a or 8b; inserting card or entering password).

displaying said tasks of the task guide entered into the task guide (Fig. 9); and

initiating at least said mandatory tasks that have been entered in said preceding steps (Fig. 8, the GUI initiates the user to insert card).

Examiner asserts that the application software that drives the output display of Gustin in response to execution of the software must have been programmed or entered into the computer.

Referring to claims 2, 16, 29, Gustin teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the task guide component is further configured to require that the performance of the plurality of tasks are initiated in a pre-set sequence (Fig. 8a and 8b; inserting card and then enter password).

Referring to claim 3, 17, 30, Gustin teaches the system of claim 2, wherein the task guide component is further configured to include one or more floating tasks that can be initiated out of the pre-set sequence (Fig. 9; withdraw or deposit).

Referring to claim 11, 25, 27, 38, Gustin teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of tasks includes a sub-task guide that includes another plurality of tasks (Fig. 10, checking or saving).

Referring to claim 12, 26, 39, Gustin teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the task guide component is further configured to store history information relating to results of performing one or more tasks included in the plurality of tasks (Col. 23, lines 58-59).

13. Claims 1-5, 7, 9-14, 16-19, 21-23, 25-26, 28-32, 34, 36-39, 41, and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,157,864 to Schwenke.

Referring to claims 1, 13, 23, 27, 28, 41, and 43, Schwenke discloses a task guide system comprising: a computer having at least one central processing unit; a computer memory and/or storage, residing within said computer; a task guide software component in storage, said task guide software component configured to include a plurality of tasks to be performed (See cover drawing), including:

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at least one task that is to be performed optionally (Fig. 10, create wiring diagram); and
at least one mandatory task that must be performed (Fig. 9, specify names),
wherein at least one of the plurality of tasks are performed manually (Fig. 9, specify names).

Referring to claim 2, 16, 29, teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the task guide component is further configured to require that the performance of the plurality of tasks are initiated in a pre-set sequence (Abstract).

Referring to claim 3, 17, 30, Schwenke teaches the system of claim 2, wherein the task guide component is further configured to include one or more floating tasks that can be initiated out of the pre-set sequence (Fig. 10, create documentation).

Referring to claims 4, 9, 18, 21, 31, 36, Schwenke teaches the system of claim 1, further comprising:

a software object within a software control system, wherein said software object represents or otherwise controls an entity in a manufacturing environment (Col. 1, lines 15-18), and wherein said software object is configured to be executed by at least one of the plurality of tasks that are to be performed automatically (Fig. 9, several parameters are set that will automatically generate ...; or Fig. 59, robot control).

Referring to claim 5, 19, 32, Schwenke teaches the system of claim 4, wherein the software object is configured to trigger a manufacturing machine to run a self diagnostic procedure (Col. 4, lines 32-63).

Referring to claims 7, 14, 34, Schwenke teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of tasks include one or more tasks directed to preventive maintenance of a manufacturing machine (Col. 4, lines 32-63).

Referring to claim 10, 22, 37, Schwenke teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the task guide software component comprises: a task guide model component that specifies the plurality of tasks; and a task guide activity component that becomes an instantiated task guide displayed to a user when the task guide model is associated with a software object configured to manage a manufacturing machine or a batch of materials to be processed (Abstract; Fig. 9, Fig. 10).

Referring to claim 11, 25, 38, Schwenke teaches the system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of tasks includes a sub-task guide that includes another plurality of tasks (Fig. 11).

14. Claims 1-23 and 25-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,317,643 to Dmochowski.

Referring to claims 1-23 and 25-43, Dmochowski teaches a task guide system and computer readable medium comprising instructions for execution by a computer comprising:

a computer having at least one central processing unit; a computer memory and/or storage, residing within said computer (Col. 3, lines 31-62);

a task guide software component in storage, said task guide software component configured to include/have entered (Col. 4, lines 14-16) a plurality of tasks to be performed (See Fig. 2), including:

at least one task that is to be performed optionally (Col. 5, lines 57-59, SETUP2 could be used as an extra setup activity, although not recommended); and

at least one mandatory task that must be performed (Col. 5, lines 60-62; FirstPc occurs during the operation of a particular machine for the first occurrence of a particular overall process),

wherein at least one of the plurality of tasks are performed manually (Fig. 2, element 222).

displaying said tasks of the task guide entered into the task guide (Fig. 2); and
initiating at least said mandatory tasks that have been entered in said preceding steps (Col. 5, lines 60-61).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

15. Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,317,643 to Dmochowski as applied to claim 23 above, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,618,692 to Takahashi.

Referring to claim 24, Dmochowski fails to teach the method of claim 23, further comprising the step of: preventing an unauthorized user from using various parts of the task guide.

However, referring to claim 24, Takahashi teaches analogous art, including preventing an unauthorized user from using various parts of a task guide (Col. 3, line 36 – Col. 4, line 41).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to combine the teachings of Takahashi with the teachings of Dmochowski.

One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine these references because Takahashi teaches a diagnosis system that has high security of information (Col. 3, line 36 – Col. 4, line 41).

Conclusion

16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sean P. Shechtman whose telephone number is (703) 305-7798. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30am-6:00pm, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo P. Picard can be reached on (703) 308-0538. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SPS

Sean P. Shechtman

June 22, 2004


ALBERT W. PALADINI
PRIMARY EXAMINER